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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590 03/26/2002

PILLSBURY MADISON AND SUTRO LLP
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP
NINTH FLOOR EAST TOWER
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 200053918

EXAMINER

LEE, Y MY QUACH

ART UNIT

CLASS-SUBCLASS

2875

362-031000

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2002

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/309,279	05/11/1999	TOSHINORI TAKAHASHI	PM-260504-97	7299

TITLE OF INVENTION: PLANAR LIGHT EMITTING DEVICE

TOTAL CLAIMS	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
11	nonprovisional	NO	\$1280	\$0	\$1280	06/26/2002

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

B. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

☐ Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and mail this form, together with applicable fee(s), to:

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MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1)

7590 03/26/2002

**PILLSBURY MADISON AND SUTRO LLP
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP
NINTH FLOOR EAST TOWER
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 200053918**

Note: The certificate of mailing below can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing.

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Box Issue Fee address above on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
LEE, Y MY QUACH	2875	362-031000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). Use of PTO form(s) and Customer Number are recommended, but not required.

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47) attached.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent)

☐ individual ☐ corporation or other private group entity ☐ government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

- ☐ A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

The COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

(Authorized Signature)

(Date)

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Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending on the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES AND THIS FORM TO: Box Issue Fee, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231**

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TRANSMIT THIS FORM WITH FEE(S)



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EXAMINER

LEE, Y MY QUACH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2875

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2002

Determination of Patent Term Extension under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed after June 7, 1995 but prior to May 29, 2000)

The patent term extension is 0 days. Any patent to issue from the above identified application will include an indication of the 0 day extension on the front page.

If a continued prosecution application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines patent term extension is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. (<http://pair.uspto.gov>)

Notice of Allowability

Application No.
09/309,279

Applicant(s)
Takahashi et al.

Examiner
Y Quach Lee

Art Unit
2875



--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment of January 2, 2002

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2, 3, and 20-28

3. ☒ The drawings filed on May 11, 1999 are acceptable as formal drawings.

4. ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

6. ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

7. ☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____

(b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

(c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

8. ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

1 ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

3 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

5 ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449), Paper No(s). _____

7 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

9 ☐ Other

2 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

4 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____

6 ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8 ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Y. MY QUACH-LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

1. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claim 2 is allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach a first transparent body having a first transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, a first semitransparent body having a first semitransparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material, the first transparent body and the first semitransparent body joined to form a diffusion layer therebetween, the first transparent body, the first semitransparent body and the diffusion layer defining a planar light emitter, a second transparent body having a second transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, and the first semitransparent body interposed between the first transparent body and the second transparent body.

Claim 3 is allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach a first transparent body having a first transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, a first semitransparent body having a first semitransparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material, the first transparent body and the first semitransparent body joined to form a first diffusion layer therebetween, the first transparent body, the first semitransparent body and the first diffusion layer defining a planar light emitter, a second transparent body having a second transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, a second semitransparent body having a second semitransparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material, the second transparent body and the first semitransparent body joined to form a second diffusion layer therebetween, and the second semitransparent body and one of the first transparent body and the second transparent body being joined to form a third diffusion layer therebetween.

Claims 20 and 24 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach a transparent body having a transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, a semitransparent body having a semitransparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material, the transparent body and the semitransparent body joined to form a diffusion layer therebetween with the diffusion layer including a sea-islands structure having a plurality of

solid shapes, and the transparent body, the semitransparent body and the diffusion layer defining a planar light emitter.

Claims 21 and 22 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach a transparent body having a transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, a semitransparent body having a semitransparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material, the transparent body and the semitransparent body joined to form a diffusion layer therebetween with the diffusion layer comprising a sea-island structure having a plurality of solid shapes including a plurality of irregular solid shapes, and the transparent body, the semitransparent body and the diffusion layer defining a planar light emitter.

Claims 23 and 27 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach a transparent body having a transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, a semitransparent body having a semitransparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material, the transparent body and the semitransparent body joined to form a diffusion layer therebetween with the diffusion layer including a plurality of solid shapes uniformly arranged on the entire diffusion layer.

Claims 25 and 26 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach a transparent body having a transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, a semitransparent body having a semitransparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material including a first synthetic resin having a first refractive index and a second synthetic resin having a second refractive index, the transparent body and the semitransparent body joined to form a diffusion layer therebetween, and the transparent body, the semitransparent body and the diffusion layer defining a planar light emitter.

Claim 28 is allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach a transparent body having a transparent synthetic resin layer containing no light scattering material, a semitransparent body having a semitransparent synthetic resin layer containing a light scattering material, the transparent body and the semitransparent body thermally joined to form a

Serial Number: 09/309,279

Page 4

Art Unit: 2875

diffusion layer therebetween, and the transparent body, the semitransparent body and the diffusion layer defining a planar light emitter.

Y. Q.
March 19, 2002